



# Michigan Crop Weather

## Cool with Persistent Rains

Three days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 29, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.31 inches to 0.43 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.42 to 2.56 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 3 to 5 degrees below normal in the Upper Peninsula and ranged from 3 degrees below normal to 1 degree above normal in the Lower Peninsula. Rain continued to delay planting progress this week. High winds made spraying difficult. Some farmers switched to spraying by airplane to keep from rutting up fields. Heavy thunderstorms and strong winds damaged irrigation equipment in Monroe County. This year has been particularly challenging, one reporter in the south central Lower Peninsula stated, “In 53 years of farming, I have never seen planting this difficult.”

## Field Crops

Growers started off the week with a small window of opportunity to plant before the rain came later in the week. They continued to have a tough time getting field work and planting done amongst steady rain showers. Some aerial spraying of fungicides was done. Some fields of **wheat** had damage from storms and heavy rainfall over the weekend. **Alfalfa** fields have benefited from the rain showers and cool soil temperatures. Pastures continued to look good. The **corn** and **soybean** acres that have been planted are up and looked good. The remaining fields left to be planted continue to be a burden for farmers trying to figure out when the next chance will be to plant.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/29/11

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	0	28	72
Subsoil	0	0	36	64

Crop condition for week ending 05/29/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	4	21	53	21
Barley	0	1	51	45	3
Corn	3	6	45	38	8
Oats	0	3	31	54	12
Pasture	1	5	17	56	21
Winter Wheat	1	6	26	50	17

## Fruit

Despite a leap in growing degree days, fruit development remained about a week behind normal. Insect activity increased, but disease control has been a greater concern. **Apples** were mostly in petal fall in the Grand Rapids area; fruit set began in the southwest and southeast. Extensive thinning is required, as there is potential for a heavy crop. Codling moth catches increased; spraying for apple scab and fire blight continued. Fruit swell began in **tart cherries**. Oblique banded leafroller larvae were spotted in the northwest. **Sweet cherries** were 7 to 11 mm in the southeast and 5 to 10 mm in the west central. Juice **grape** shoots were 4 to 10 inches long in the southwest. Some northwest wine grapes were at late bud swell; early varieties had 1 to 3 inches of shoot growth. **Blueberries** were in early to late bloom in the Grand Rapids area and in late bloom to petal fall bloom in the southwest. Fields with extensive winter damage have been especially susceptible to mummy berry and phomopsis. **Strawberries** had thimble-sized fruit in southern areas but were still blooming farther north. Control of slugs and tarnished plant bug was advised. Flowers were visible in summer **raspberries**. **Peaches** were in shuck in the west central and shuck split in the southwest. Bacterial spot suppression continued. **Plums** were mostly in shuck.

## Vegetables

Planting delays continued in wet areas. Harvest of **asparagus** continued at a slower than average pace. **Sweet corn** was emerging with the warmer temperatures, but planting was not yet complete. The **carrot** and **onion** crops have emerged on muck soils in the southeast, and have continued to emerge across the State. **Tomatoes**, **peppers**, **celery**, **watermelon** and **cantaloupe** were being transplanted. In the southwest, tomatoes grown in tunnels are blooming. Also in the southwest, **zucchini** and **yellow squash** transplants were nearly complete. Some **winter squash** for processing was planted in the west central region. **Pea** and **lettuce** plants were developing nicely.

Crop progress for week ending 05/29/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	2	0	29	18
Asparagus, harvested	52	31	66	54
Barley, planted	80	78	99	96
Barley, emerged	49	47	94	80
Corn, planted	67	57	92	92
Corn, emerged	46	22	78	69
Dry beans, planted	1	NA	20	8
Oats, planted	88	83	100	98
Oats, emerged	76	52	99	91
Potatoes, planted	82	73	91	84
Potatoes, emerged	21	13	62	48
Soybeans, planted	31	24	70	71
Soybeans, emerged	16	7	42	35
Sugarbeets, planted	96	96	100	100
Winter wheat, headed	8	0	57	36

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/29/11 <sup>1</sup>												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	73	28		247	452		0.69	1.46	2.85	6.47		
Marquette	70	29		234	430		0.34	1.11	2.95	7.49		
Stephenson	74	28		291	511		0.19	0.80	1.94	6.42		
<b>Western UP</b>	74	26	-5	251	453	293	0.43	1.09	2.66	6.19	5.47	3.37
Cornell	71	33		224	475		0.29	1.72	2.41	5.87		
Sault St Marie	70	35		249	453		0.31	1.66	2.41	7.94		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	73	25	-3	224	437	202	0.31	1.59	2.87	7.36	5.23	3.01
Beulah	86	35		348	530		0.58	1.24	3.46	10.52		
Lake City	87	32		339	500		0.33	1.05	2.81	8.97		
Old Mission	84	33		280	510		0.47	1.42	3.03	7.45		
Pellston	76	29		320	506		0.18	0.97	1.91	7.33		
<b>Northwest</b>	87	29	-2	307	493	350	0.42	1.20	2.98	8.13	5.17	2.61
Alpena	75	34		264	480		0.74	1.40	2.95	9.57		
Houghton Lake	87	36		366	530		0.18	0.48	2.48	8.70		
Rogers City	81	36		217	447		0.49	0.73	1.74	6.34		
<b>Northeast</b>	87	34	-2	299	508	326	0.42	0.94	2.16	8.30	5.17	2.76
Fremont	86	39		410	581		0.38	1.21	1.84	7.04		
Hart	85	35		360	536		0.55	0.81	1.66	5.89		
Muskegon	86	42		423	582		0.77	1.57	2.47	7.76		
<b>West Central</b>	88	31	-2	385	557	400	0.59	1.03	2.01	6.90	5.71	2.67
Alma	88	42		367	594		0.78	2.37	3.73	9.47		
Big Rapids	74	29		346	538		0.68	1.27	2.52	11.24		
<b>Central</b>	88	29	-3	372	567	436	0.72	1.62	3.14	8.82	5.76	2.79
Bad Axe	89	41		323	553		0.49	1.51	2.87	9.92		
Pigeon	86	41		338	561		0.41	1.24	1.82	7.68		
Saginaw	89	44		401	617		0.76	1.97	3.51	9.88		
Standish	84	41		327	539		0.62	1.73	2.39	9.52		
<b>East Central</b>	89	41	-3	329	563	417	0.96	1.97	3.67	10.00	5.08	2.63
Fennville	89	43		407	597		2.53	3.35	4.69	10.19		
Grand Rapids	89	45		466	654		1.68	2.80	4.70	11.98		
Holland	90	44		496	659		2.44	3.68	6.53	12.35		
South Bend, IN	89	49		508	662		3.37	3.88	7.64	15.09		
Watervliet	88	44		450	635		2.55	3.17	5.18	11.27		
<b>Southwest</b>	92	37	-1	454	639	471	2.32	3.04	5.07	11.16	6.23	3.01
Belding	87	41		400	579		1.15	2.03	3.77	10.48		
Coldwater	88	46		467	655		2.43	2.86	4.76	9.72		
Lansing	87	45		424	632		3.17	4.03	7.10	12.70		
<b>South Central</b>	89	41	-1	421	617	470	2.34	3.64	5.91	11.65	6.01	2.92
Detroit	89	47		488	678		2.70	3.69	4.68	10.98		
Flint	89	44		451	623		2.13	5.02	7.67	13.36		
Romeo	89	42		392	586		2.18	4.21	7.67	12.37		
Tipton	89	45		461	626		2.46	3.59	4.92	11.48		
Toledo, OH	89	45		446	701		2.69	3.72	5.65	10.81		
<b>Southeast</b>	93	42	1	445	641	447	2.56	3.64	5.60	10.91	5.97	2.85

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.